

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

The following is a marked-up version of the claims with the language that is underlined (“___”) being added and the language that contains strikethrough (“—”) being deleted:

1. – 14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A method for accessing messages, the method comprising the steps of:
receiving a request to access a voicemail message in a legacy voicemail system, the request being received over the Internet;
converting the request to a command of the legacy voicemail system;
retrieving the voicemail message using the command;
converting the voicemail message to a voice-over-Internet-protocol (VoIP) message; and
transmitting the VoIP message over the Internet.

16. – 20. (Canceled)

21. (New) A system for accessing messages sent from a caller for a callee, the system comprising:

an analog voicemail system configured to store a received analog voicemail message;

a digital voicemail system configured to store a received digital voicemail message, the digital voicemail system including means for converting the received digital voicemail message into an analog voicemail message, wherein the converted analog message is configured for storage at the analog voicemail system; and

a messaging server coupled to the standard telephone system, the messaging server further being coupled to the analog voicemail system, the messaging server further being coupled to the digital voicemail system, the messaging server comprising:

means for extracting the received analog voicemail message from the analog voicemail system;

means for digitizing the extracted analog voicemail message; and

means for sending the digitized voicemail message to the digital voicemail system.

22. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the digital voicemail system is further configured to send a query regarding whether the callee is a subscriber of the analog voicemail system.

23. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the digital voicemail system is further configured to, in response to an indication that the callee is a subscriber of the analog voicemail system, convey the converted analog message to the analog voicemail system.

24. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the digital voicemail system is further configured to receive a query for new digital voice messages.

25. (New) The system of claim 24, wherein the query is received via the Internet.

26. (New) The system of claim 21, wherein the system is coupled to an Internet call waiting system.

27. (New) A digital voicemail system for receiving voicemail from a caller for a callee, the system comprising:

logic configured to send a query for determining whether the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system;

logic configured to receive an indication as to whether the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system;

logic configured to, in response to receiving an indication that the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system, convert a received digital voicemail message into an analog voicemail message; and

logic configured to convey the converted analog voicemail message to the analog voicemail system.

28. (New) The system of claim 27, further comprising logic configured to store the received digital message.

29. (New) The system of claim 27, further comprising logic configured to receive a converted digital message from the analog voicemail system.

30. (New) The system of claim 27, further comprising logic configured to delete the received digital message.

31. (New) The system of claim 27, further comprising logic configured to receive a query for new messages.

32. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the digital voicemail system is an Internet-based system.

33. (New) The system of claim 27, wherein the digital voicemail system includes an instant messaging system.

34. (New) A method at a digital voicemail system for receiving voicemail from a caller for a callee, the method comprising:

sending a query for determining whether the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system;

receiving an indication as to whether the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system;

in response to receiving an indication that the callee is a subscriber of an analog voicemail system, converting a received digital voicemail message into an analog voicemail message; and

conveying the converted analog voicemail message to the analog voicemail system.

35. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising storing the received digital message.

36. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising receiving a converted digital message from the analog voicemail system.

37. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising deleting the received digital message.

38. (New) The method of claim 34, further comprising receiving a query for new messages.

39. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the digital voicemail system is an Internet-based system.